

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 01749 161354Z  
ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 INR-05 SP-02 L-01 PM-03 /032 W  
-----007008 161405Z /43

P 152248Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6110

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 1749

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, PN, PQ, US  
SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF 446TH PRC MEETING, MARCH 15

1. TREATY RATIFICATION: AMBASSADOR BRIEFED CINC AND GOVERNOR ON STATE OF PLAY IN SENATE ON VARIOUS NEUTRALITY TREATY RESERVATIONS AND UNDERSTANDINGS. AMBASSADOR SUMMARIZED CURRENT CONVERSATIONS HE AND DEP. ASST. SECY. MOSS ARE HOLDING WITH GOP TREATY ADVISERS WHICH ARE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE THEM WITH FIRST-HAND ACCOUNT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN SENATE AND OF FORCES AND TENSIONS AFFECTING DEBATE. HE COMMENTED THESE TALKS HAD INTRODUCED NOTE OF REALISM TO PANAMANIAN OFFICIALS ASSESSING SIGNIFICANCE OF RATIFICATION DEBATES FOR GEN. TORRIJOS.

2. CONTINGENCY PLANS: BALANCE OF MEETING WAS TAKEN UP WITH REVIEW OF CONTINGENCY PLANS IN EVENT NEUTRALITY TREATY IS VOTED DOWN MARCH 16. IN CONSULTATION WITH JCS, CINC IS INSTITUTING A NUMBER OF LOW-PROFILE MEASURES WHICH WILL INCREASE POLICE SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE CAPABILITY USING EXISTING FORCES. SHOULD NEUTRALITY TREATY BE REJECTED, ADDITIONAL ARMY, MARINE AND AIR FORCE POLICE AND SECURITY FORCES (ONE COMPANY-SIZE UNIT EACH) WILL  
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ARRIVE IN ZONE STARTING MARCH 19. SPECIALLY EQUIPPED SURVEILLANCE AIRCRAFT AND PATROL CRAFT WILL ALSO BE SENT SUBSEQUENTLY. CINC EMPHASIZED ALL CONTEMPLATED ACTIONS WILL HAVE LOW VISIBILITY. GOVERNOR REPORTED CZG WILL EXTEND POLICE SHIFTS STARTING MARCH 16 TO INCREASE SURVEILLANCE IN BORDER AREAS BUT OTHERWISE WILL AVOID PROVOCATIVE PRACTICES. PANCANAL IS CONSULTING

WITH SOUTHCOM ABOUT TURNING OVER CONTROL OF CERTAIN  
INSTALLATIONS IN EVENT OF NEGATIVE VOTE. NOTE: EMBASSY  
HAS ALSO REVIEWED ITS OWN SECURITY POSTURE IN CASE IT IS  
NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.  
JORDEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** TREATY RATIFICATION, MEETINGS, CANALS  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
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